REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 22, 2005. Claims 1 to 33 and 35 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 13, 23, 33 and 35 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,982,937 (Accad) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,999,710 (Smith). Claims 33 to 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Accad and Smith in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,903,715 (Sawano). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns generating image data without deterioration even if the size of the image data is greater than a memory of host system that will contain the image data. To do so, system information is obtained concerning a blank capacity of a memory provided in the host computer. The blank capacity of the memory in the host computer is analyzed and the data of the proper compression format can be output to the host computer.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a print control apparatus which can communicate with a host computer and an image output apparatus. The apparatus includes: obtaining means for obtaining system information concerning a memory provided in the host computer, from the host computer; data generating means for generating second data which can be outputted from the image output apparatus from first data which is inputted from the host computer; first data compressing means for generating third data by performing a data compression based on a first compression format to the second data; second data compressing means for generating fourth data by performing a data compression based on a second compression format different from the first compression format to the second data; first output means for analyzing a blank capacity of the memory obtained by

the obtaining means, and selectively outputting the third and fourth data to the host computer; first data decompressing means for generating fifth data by performing a data decompression corresponding to the first compression format to the third data which is inputted from the host computer; second data decompressing means for generating sixth data by performing a data decompression corresponding to the second compression format to the fourth data which is inputted from the host computer; and second output means for outputting the fifth or sixth data to the image output apparatus.

In contrast, both Accad and Smith disclose that lossless compression and lossy compression are switched according to the type of data being compressed. (See column 6, line 48, to column 7, line 9, of Accad and column 8, lines 47 to 59, of Smith). In Accad, the choice of compression method is made based on the size of color patches in the data to be compressed. In Smith, text and raster objects are compressed using one method, and raster objects are compressed using another method. Furthermore, Sawano discloses that data is compressed by plural compression methods, the compressed data having a least data amount is selected therefrom, and the selected data is stored in the RAM 17 (See column 3, lines 19-26 of Sawano).

However, neither Accad, Smith nor Sawano, neither alone nor in combination, disclose nor suggest obtaining system information concerning a memory provided in a host computer, from said host computer and analyzing a blank capacity of said memory and selectively outputting said third data (of the first compression format) and fourth data (of the second compression format) to said host computer.

In light of this deficiency of Accad, Smith and Sawano, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Independent Claims 33 and 35 are directed to systems that include substantially the same features as the apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly Applicant submits that the discussion

from above in regard to Claim 1 apply equally to Claims 33 and 35. Therefore, Claims 33 and 35 are believed to be in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claims 13 and 23 are directed to a method and computer-readable memory medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the apparatus of Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 13 and 23 are believed to be in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests same.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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- 15 -